

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 05992 222100Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
TRSE-00 /045 W
-----128353 230153Z /62
R 221913Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8891

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 5992

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, HO
SUBJECT: CEMENT WORKER STRIKE CALLED

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA A-58, (B) TEGUCIGALPA 3776, (C) TEGUCIGALPA
A-55

1. HONDURAS SECOND MAJOR STRIKE OF THE YEAR MAY BEGIN
DECEMBER 27 IF CEMENT WORKERS WALK OFF AS NOW PLANNED.
ONLY OTHER STRIKE THIS YEAR, AT THE TEXACO REFINERY
(REFTEL), WAS RESOLVED WHEN BOTH SIDES ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY
ACCEPTED AN ARBITRATION BOARD'S DECISION.

2. CEMENT WORKERS UNION HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO RESOLVE
A CONTRACTUAL DISPUTE WITH THE HONDURAN CEMENT COMPANY
RELATING TO NIGH SHIFT PAYMENTS. THE DISPUTE GOES BACK
TO 1968 AND LENGTHY ATTEMPTS AT MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION
HAVE REACHED AN IMPASSE. THE MEMBERSHIP APPARENTLY
BELIEVES THE ISSUE MUST BE BROUGHT TO A HEAD AND LAST
WEEK VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY IN FAVOR OF GOING ON STRIKE.

3. THE UNION (SITRACEHAS) HAS THE PROMISED SUPPORT
OF THE POWERFUL NORTH COAST LABOR DEFERATION (FESITRANH),
WHOSE LEADER CELEO GONZALEZ BELIEVES THAT AN IMPORTANT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEGUCI 05992 222100Z

ISSUE FOR THE LABOR MOVEMENT IS AT STAKE. FESITRANH
LEADERS HAVE TALKED OF A POSSIBLE GENERAL STRIKE BUT
ARE NOT YET COMMITTED. PRIVATE INDUSTRY SOURCES HAVE
PREDICTED SERIOUS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES
FOR THE COUNTRY, AND THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION
THAT THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT "MILITARIZE" THE WORKERS AS
IT DID IN THE TEXACO STRIKE. THE COUNTRY'S CEMENT RESERVES

ARE REPORTEDLY VERY LOW AND A STRIKE WOULD HAVE ALMOST IMMEDIATE REPERCUSSIONS IN THE IMPORTANT CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOW BEEN BROKEN OFF ALTHOUGH BEHIND THE SCENES CONTACTS ARE PROBABLY STILL CONTINUING IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVERT THE STRIKE.

4. COMMENT: WHILE THE CEMENT WORKERS STRIKE IS LEGAL, A GENERAL STRIKE OR SELECTIVE STRIKES IN SUPPORT OF THE CEMENT WORKERS ARE NOT. FESITRANH ITSELF CANNOT CALL A GENERAL STRIKE UNTIL A SPECIAL MEETING OF ITS AFFILIATES IS HELD. SOME PRIVATE INDUSTRY LEADERS AHVE ACCUSED THE STRIKE OF HAVING A POLITICAL INTENT, PROFESSING TO SEE A LINK BETWEEN THE NEWLY FORMED REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (PRH) AND UNION LEADERS (REF C). IN FACT, THOSE UNION LEADERS INVOLVED IN THE STRIKE HAVE BEEN OPPOSED TO THE FORMATION OF A LABOR ORIENTED POLITICAL PARTY (REF C).
JARAMILLO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CEMENT, CEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TEGUCI05992
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770478-0898
Format: TEL
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771224/aaaaaugl.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 16cfcafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TEGUCIGALPA A-58, 78 TEGUCIGALPA 3776
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 143362
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CEMENT WORKER STRIKE CALLED
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, HO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/16cfcafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009